In the Application of:

(Case No. 98,541-C)

In the Application of:

(Examiner: Patricia Bex

Serial No.: 09/721,096

(Filing Date: November 22, 2000

(Confirmation No. 4217

For: Removal Of Embedding Media From Biological Samples and Cell Conditioning)

## REPLY TO THE APRIL 16, 2003 OFFICIAL ACTION

Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on Automated Staining Instruments

Dear Sir:

This is a Reply to the April 16, 2003 Official Action for the above-captioned U.S. patent application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.

**Appendix A** which includes a copy of a Terminal Disclaimer follows page 10 of this Reply.